

ABSTRACT

RESERVATION SYSTEM

5     There is disclosed a system for making reservations, in  
      which the system includes a central on-line reservation  
      provider through which reservations for one or more  
      individual service providers may be made, one or more  
10    individual service providers through which reservations  
      for the respective individual service providers may be  
      made directly, and means for communicating between the  
      central reservation provider and the respective  
      individual service providers, wherein a first portion of  
15    the available reservations from each individual service  
      provider are held by the central reservation provider  
      and a second portion of the available reservations from  
      each individual service provider are held by each  
      respective individual service provider and, if a  
      reservation requested from either the central  
20    reservation provider or an individual service provider  
      is not available from that provider, available  
      reservations are transferred from the other of the  
      central reservation provider or the individual service  
      provider to the central reservation provider or the  
25    individual service provider via the means for  
      communicating so as to allow a reservation to be made.